



Roy Root, Greenbelt Theater house manager, and Iz Parker, Cooperator Staffer, pose with Cooperator sign. Have you subscribed? Mail those cards, or call the editor, GR 3-5801.

Drop Inn Plans Dance

A Christmas Dance will be held at the Drop-Inn December 26. Admission will be seventy-five cents drag and fifty cents stag. The dance will be from 8 p.m. to midnight. Refreshments will be sold.

Those who do not have a membership card will now be admitted for twenty-five cents.

The Drop-Inn will be open during the Christmas holiday. During the nights which the Drop-Inn is not regularly open, membership cards will not be honored. Members will pay ten cents on these nights to be admitted. A series of membership dances will be held the first Saturday in every month, starting in January. These dances will be for members only. Teen-agers should get their cards now.

Local Waltonians Elect Officers

On Thursday evening, December 10, the Greenbelt Chapter of the Izaak Walton League elected officers for the coming year. Those elected to carry on the chapter's activities for 1954 were President, Harry "Pop" Bell; first vice-president, Roy Davis; second vice-president Wm. G. Maguire; treasurer, J. "Pop" Van Arsdaile; recording secretary, L. A. Lee; corresponding secretary, E. M. Weber.

A special installation meeting will be held Saturday evening, January 16, at the Athletic Club commencing at 8 p.m. Members, their ladies and visitors are urged to come down and make it a gala affair.

Lions Sponsor Movie

"The Clown", starring Red Skelton, will be brought to the Greenbelt theater Wednesday, December 23. Price of admission for this well-known comedy will be an article of food, new clothing, or a toy. Sponsored by the Lions Club, all collections will be distributed to needy families in the community.

The Lions are also setting up a collection point in the center to accumulate such gifts.

Majorettes Bake Sale

The Majorettes will sponsor a bake sale Saturday, December 19, in front of the Greenbelt theater. The girls are trying to raise money to secure new uniforms and will appreciate the public's support.

Center School Program

The Center School's Christmas Program will take place Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, December 21 and 22. Parents will be advised by note the exact times of the program. A cordial welcome is extended to all.

Library Display

"Christmas in the Barn" is the theme of the current display in the Greenbelt public library which serves as an attractive reminder of books available there appropriate to the Christmas season.

Books shown are for all ages, from pre-school through elementary grades, and include picture books, well-tested favorites as well as newcomers in the book world.

The display will be on view through Wednesday, December 23. The library will be closed Thursday, December 24, through Sunday, January 3, inclusive. It will re-open on Monday, January 4, on its regular schedule: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Junior High News

Greenbelt Junior High School's Christmas Dance will be held on Saturday, December 19, in the new gymnasium from 8 to 11 p.m. Students from other schools who have been given special invitations will be present at the dance. Parents of students are also invited to join in the merrymaking.

On Tuesday, December 22, the last day of school preceding the Christmas holidays, the school will hold its Christmas assembly. The 8th and 9th grade Glee Clubs, together with the Band, will perform. The assembly will be divided into two shifts, 9-10 a.m. and 10-11 a.m., to take care of the entire student body. Parents are invited to attend the program.

Last week marked the conclusion of the audiometer tests which were given to all 7th grade students, in addition to 8th and 9th grade students recommended for hearing tests by their classroom teachers. Out of 440 children taking the test, 18 were found to have a hearing deficiency. A letter explaining the hearing test is being sent to parents of these 18 students and requesting them to get a more conclusive report from their own physician. Results of these reports should be forwarded to the school.

The Christmas recess lasts from December 23 through January 3.

Santa To Donnie; Donnie To Santa

North Pole

Dear Donnie Wolfe,
I will be in Greenbelt Friday, December 18 at about 5 p.m. and I want to talk to all the children there. My reindeer will bring me in and I want you to guide me around the city. I also want to hear the children sing Christmas carols. Will you please let me help you light the community tree?

Santa Claus.

Donnie's Reply

Dear Santa,
We can hardly wait till you arrive. I will see that the children sing Christmas carols as they accompany you. This will be your route when you come:

Up Crescent and stop at Crescent and Ridge,

Stop at 11 and 14 Ridge,

Stop at 17 and 18 Ridge,

Stop at Gardenway and Ridge,

Stop at Eastway and Ridge,

Stop at Northway and Ridge,

Stop at Plateau and Ridge,

Stop at Laurel Hill and Ridge,

then go up to 15 and 14 Laurel,

Stop at top Research and Ridge,

Stop at bottom of Research and Hillside,

Stop at bottom of Laurel and Hillside Road,

We will then go to the Center where you will talk to the children, help light the Christmas tree, and give candy to the children.

Band To Carol Monday

According to tradition, members of the Greenbelt Band and Majorettes plan to go carolling Monday night between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m.

The Big Band will tour the City in the local bus and make several stops at key points. They will then return to the Center School where the parents of the Big and Little Band, members of the Little Band, members taking preliminary lessons, and all Majorette members will be awaiting them with refreshments and warm drinks. All former members and those interested in our Band Organization are welcomed.

The usual awards will be made to those who have voluntarily contributed time, effort, and financial support towards the progress of the Band. Approximately 100 Band Members, 25 Majorettes and their parents are expected to attend. The board members are very happy over the excellent progress of its organizations and claim the biggest membership in the history of the Band and Majorette Organization.

Members of the Little Band are looking to their first full-fledged concert during the January 26 meeting of the combined PTAs at the Center School, and the recital given by the pupils taking private lessons.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW GREENBELT?

(Answers on page 3)

1. Does Greenbelt have a permanent Christmas tree at the Center?
2. Who is responsible for the Christmas lighting and decorations at the Center this year?
3. Where do the Christmas trees come from that the Co-op sells?
4. Who is in charge of decorating the stores and store windows?
5. How many more shopping nights at the Center before Christmas?

GVHC Board Vetoes Cutting Trees On Vacant Property For Xmas

By Russell Greenbaum

Greenbelt residents will not be permitted to obtain their Christmas trees from GVHC vacant land this year, decided the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation board of directors at their bi-weekly meeting Thursday night, December 10.

Tree Gets Lit Friday

The tree-lighting ceremony will take place at the center Friday, December 18 at 8 p.m. Mayor Frank Lastner, assisted by Santa Claus, will light the tree, after which Santa will present Christmas candy, provided by GCS, to all the kids. A reviewing stand will be set up in front of the statue in the center where the city council and Lions Club officials will be seated. The children will file by to receive their candy from Santa. The ceremony is sponsored by the Lions Club Good Will Committee, under the chairmanship of Arthur Plackett.

St. Hugh's Presents Christmas Program

At 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, December 20, the pupils of St. Hugh's school will present their annual Christmas program. The program this year is dedicated to Father Dowgiallo on his silver jubilee. Two plays titled: "He Said He Was Santa", and "Lo, the Star", combining talents of the eight grades, plus singing by the girls choir and St. Hugh's Boys Choir, will be presented.

Admission to the program, 50 cents for adults and 10 cents for children, will benefit St. Hugh's building fund. The public is invited.

Community Church Music and Pageant

Christmas observances in Community Church will begin with the 9 a.m. Worship Service Sunday, December 20. Rev. Eric T. Braund will preach on "Is There Room in THIS Inn?", and the St. Cecilia and Carol Choirs will sing at this service.

At 11 a.m. the Chancel Choir and soloists of Community Church will again sing the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah", which since its first performance on April 13, 1742, has probably had more performances than any masterwork in the history of music. Soloists will be Edna White, soprano; Velma Chapman, alto; Kenneth Keeney, tenor; Harold Hufendick and George Timmerman, baritones. Elizabeth Goetze is organist and director. The public is cordially invited to hear this music, here being presented for the second time in Greenbelt.

At 5 and 7:30 p.m., the annual Christmas Pageant will again be presented, with children and adults of the Church School and the various choirs participating. Mrs. Lillian Mitchell is again directing. The public is invited.

On Christmas Eve, the chimes will call people to worship, starting at 10 p.m., with special Christmas organ music from 10:30. The Service will begin at 11 p.m. with Edna White singing "I wonder as I wander". The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served, and new members will be received.

On Christmas morning at 10:30, a Service of Holy Communion and Baptism will be held for those unable to attend the Christmas Eve service.

Cutting down trees will be strictly prohibited except where the trees are to be delivered to schools, churches, or other public institutions, in which case removal of the trees must be under careful supervision. City police have been asked to enforce this ruling.

Quorum Reduction

The board also discussed the matter of the quorum at GVHC membership meetings. At the present time 10 percent of the membership are required to form a quorum. At the last two meetings a quorum call revealed that enough members had departed during the evening to drop below the quorum, and the meetings had to be abruptly adjourned before the agenda was completed.

Ralph Webster, president of the GVHC board, directed the board's general counsel to look into the matter with a view to reducing the quorum, perhaps to five percent of the membership. Webster felt that the reduction might prod members into making a special effort to attend meetings to prevent a small group from deciding matters. At the same time more business could be completed.

Sales Prospects

Paul Campbell, GVHC's manager, reported that progress on selling and renting vacant homes was continuing. Since October 15, 12 vacant homes have been sold and 18 rented on yearly leases. Two other homes have been sold in advance of their anticipated vacancy. Vacant homes in poor condition have been redecorated, and the price of the house has been increased accordingly.

In connection with future sales and rentals, it has been learned that during the coming year approximately 2,000 government employees will be transferred from the Washington area to Fort Meade, a short journey from Greenbelt on the Baltimore-Washington Expressway. These employees have already been notified of the move, and government officials have begun to make inquiries of GVHC concerning possible housing.

Crawl Space Use

A member appeared before the board to raise the question for the first time on the use of the cellar or crawl spaces beneath the defense homes for storage of personal property. The member, who has been using the space beneath his home for this purpose, stated that the GVHC maintenance department is planning to place locks on these cellar spaces, and he felt he should be able to hold the key to his.

The board decided to establish a policy of not giving blanket permission to all defense home owners to use these spaces, but to decide each case on its merits. The matter was placed in the hands of the home and grounds improvement committee, headed by Elliot Bukzin.

Co-op Kindergarten

The Greenbelt Cooperative Kindergarten is now accepting names for both sessions at the Center school and North End school.

Parents who are interested should call Mrs. William Levsky, 4341, for the Center school and Mrs. Ralph Moore, 7737, for the North End school.

GREENBELT COOPERATOR

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Jennie Klein, Business Mgr., 8681

Jim O'Neill, Circulation Mgr., 2436

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Vol. 18 Thursday, December 17, 1953 No. 19

Letters To The Editor

TAX TALK

The Greenbelt tax situation is of great importance to all of us. At the Board of Directors meeting of Greenbelt Consumer Services last Friday, there was considerable discussion about the subject. The Board adopted a statement that "it believes personal property taxes in Greenbelt unfair — unfair because it penalizes the Co-op with a tax its competitors in the county do not pay, and also it discourages the addition of industry and businesses to the community. However, it is vital to get the real estate tax down to a rate low enough to enable new housing to be built here. If necessary, and if there is no other way to get the rate low enough, GCS would be prepared, if Council believes it wise, to even recommend a higher personal property tax for a temporary period. We are still of the opinion it is better not to have a personal property tax, because it tends to discourage other businesses coming into the community and is an unfair burden."

A word of explanation is in order. We are concerned about taxes because we are interested in a healthy community over the long-run period. Also we feel that if the community grows, GCS as a business can add additional services and that certain economies will accrue to the members and residents.

We understand that Roger Willcox, president of the corporation expecting to build new houses in Greenbelt, has said that it will be very difficult, if not impossible to get financing or sell houses costing over \$10,000 if the local tax rate is more than \$2.00.

We recognize that most citizens of Greenbelt are happy with the services they now receive and the total amount of "rent" payments they make to GVHC which includes their taxes. Living in Greenbelt is a good deal because of the low purchase price of the houses and the favorable financing

enjoyed by GVHC. We feel, however, that we must consider the economies of building new housing in Greenbelt versus other nearby communities. Even at the \$2.00 tax rate, the monthly payments on new houses in Greenbelt assessed at \$9,000 will be approximately \$12.00 per month more than on a similar house assessed at the same figure at Four Corners near Silver Spring. Greenbelt is a better place to live than Montgomery County. However, if it costs too much more, our community will not grow. For the community to be healthy, it must grow so that the cost of the City government will be spread over a larger tax base to make it possible to further reduce the tax rate or to add to the number and quality of services.

We feel that it is urgent that the tax rate be reduced to \$2.00 or less now, so that building can go ahead. We hope that this can be done without increasing the personal property tax rate. However, we stand ready to pay even higher personal property taxes for the next year or two than we have this year, because the next few years are critical for the growth of the community.

The Co-op always pays its share of taxes, both local and federal. In Greenbelt we have paid more than competitors would have if the same shopping center were located, for example, on Schrom's Airport. This coming year, assuming a \$2.25 county and state rate, \$2.00 city rate, and no personal property tax rate in Greenbelt, the total taxes paid there on buildings, inventory, and equipment would be approximately \$13,700 as compared to \$20,600 in Greenbelt.

Walter J. Bierwagen
President,
Greenbelt Consumer Services

All those interested in joining the home and grounds improvement committee of the Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation should contact Elliot Bukzin at 5481.

ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. Victor J. Dowgiallo, Pastor
GR. 3-5911

Confessions: Saturday afternoon from 3 to 5:30 for children and in the evening from 7 to 9 p.m. for adults.

Sunday: Masses; 7:30, 8:30, 9:30 and 11 a.m. This is communion Sunday for children.

Baptisms: Sunday, 1 p.m. Contact Father Dowgiallo beforehand.

Tuesday, December 22: 9 a.m., Father Dowgiallo will sing his jubilee mass. This will be a high Mass with the children of St. Hugh's in attendance. They will sing during the Mass. After Mass the school children will be served breakfast before being dismissed for the holiday vacation.

Wednesday: Novena devotions followed by Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 8 p.m.

Thursday, December 24: The vigil of Christmas — a day of strict fast and abstinence. Confessions: Thursday afternoon by a visiting priest from 3 to 5:30 and again in the evening from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Midnight Mass: High Mass celebrated by the pastor with St. Hugh's Choir singing the Mass. Beginning at 11:45, the Altar Boys' Choir will sing hymns and musical selections. The Church will be open at 11:15 p.m. Children are not to attend this Mass.

Christmas Day: December 25. Masses offered at 7:30, 8:30, 9:30 and 11 a.m., all low masses. Families are urged to visit the crib any time during Christmas day.

MOWATT MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

C. R. Strausburg, Minister
Harry B. Miles, Associate
Services at North End School

Sunday, December 20 - 10 a.m., combined Sunday School church program at North End School auditorium. Every class will be represented in a program of recitations, pantomimes and special mu-

sic by the senior and junior choirs. Members of the Sunday School are reminded to bring their Building Funds Bank with them next Sunday. Santa Claus will be at the Chapel on Woodlandway. 7 p.m., Bring the children to this party as there will be carol singing and a treat for all.

Monday, December 22 - 8 p.m., Methodist Men will meet at the home of Roderick MacKenzie, 10-S Plateau.

GREENBELT LUTHERAN CHURCH

Edward H. Birner, Pastor
Telephone GR. 4-2051

Friday, December 18: 8 p.m., Sunday School teachers meet at the church.

Sunday, December 20: 9:45 a.m., Sunday School and adult Bible Class. Classes are held for all ages. Raymond Carriere, superintendent. 8:30 and 11 a.m., Church Services. A nursery is maintained for the benefit of parents with small children. 7 p.m., The annual Sunday School Christmas Program. The children will present the program based on the theme "O Holy Night". 2 p.m., Final rehearsal for the Sunday School children.

Christmas Eve: 9 p.m., Those interested in caroling meet at the church. 11 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Christmas Day: 10 a.m., Christmas Day services.

Visitors are always welcome to our services.

GREENBELT BAPTIST

Meeting in Center School
Wm. J. Crowder, Ph.D.,
Acting Pastor
GR. 3-4844

Sunday, December 20 - 9:45 a.m., Sunday School. J. S. Stewart, superintendent. Classes for all ages. 11 a.m., Morning Worship service. Sermon - "Wonders We Never Outgrow". Nursery for babies and small children maintained during

Sunday School and Morning Worship hours. 5 p.m., Christmas Vesper Service - recitations and music by Sunday School classes, concluded with "The Christmas Story", by Hazel U. Wilson.

COMMUNITY CHURCH PROTESTANT

Eric T. Braund, Robert C. Hull
Ministers
Elizabeth Goetze
Minister of Music

Friday, December 18 - 8 p.m., Discussion Group Party in Social Hall.

Saturday, December 19 - 7:30 p.m., Christmas Pageant rehearsal.

Sunday, December 20 - Morning Worship at 9 and 11 a.m. At 9 a.m., Mr. Braund's sermon will be on the topic "Is There Room In THIS Inn?" At 11 a.m., the Chancel Choir and Soloists will give their second annual presentation of Handel's "Messiah" (Christmas portion). Church School classes at 9 and 11 for Kindergarten and Primary; at 10 for Juniors and Adults - Men's Bible class and Fidelis class for women. Nursery at 9 and 11, Nursery Room, Fellowship Center. 5 p.m., Annual Christmas Pageant. 6:30 p.m., Supper for cast of pageant. 7:30 p.m., Second presentation of Christmas Pageant.

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve. Holy Communion at 11 p.m. Special Christmas organ music from 10:30. Reception of new members. Special music by Chancel Choir - O Holy Night, Gesu Bambino, Lo now a rose, From heaven high.

Friday, December 25 - Christmas Day, 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Baptism.

HEBREW SERVICES Rabbi C. Waldman

Friday night services will be held December 18 at 8 p.m. at the home of Rabbi C. Waldman, 18-E Ridge.

Candle-lighting time is at 3:35 p.m.

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For further information Call 2481

CLASSIFIED

(Classified rates are three cents per word, fifty cents minimum. Ads should be submitted in writing, accompanied by cash payment, to the Cooperator not later than 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication. If accompanied by cash payment, ads may be left for collection in the Cooperator box at the tobacco store. "FOUND" ads will be printed free of charge.)

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1 BEDROOM apartment for rent. GR. 3-2792 after 6 p.m.

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QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Yes, the MacGregor tree which stands across Centerway opposite the drug store. This tree was planted and given to the City as a permanent Christmas tree by the Woman's Club of Greenbelt in memory of Angus MacGregor, landscaping superintendent in Greenbelt for the federal government for many years. Mr. MacGregor was responsible for the planting of most of the trees and shrubs here. The tree will not be lighted this year as the lights have dried it out in past years, but another will be lighted instead. It other will be lighted instead.

2. The City Recreation Department, headed by Donnie Wolfe, has put up all of the Christmas lighting and also the Santa Claus around the statue.

3. Greenbelt Consumer Services buys two carloads of Christmas trees from the Tabusintac cooperative in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia. The trees this year are set up in a self-service arrangement at the swimming pool. The trees have been so popular in past years that the co-op is acting as wholesaler for three groups in the area. The trees are also on sale at the Takoma Park shopping center.

4. Henry Meyers is in charge of decorating the stores and windows of GCS. He has been employed by the co-op since August 1945.

5. On Friday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the variety store will be open until 9 p.m. It will be closed Christmas Eve.



By Dorothy McGee, phone 8083
HELP PLEASE

Does anyone have a Santa Claus suit to lend the North End School's kindergarten for their Christmas party this coming Tuesday morning? If you know of someone who has such a suit, please phone Mrs. Dorothy Glendenning at GR. 3-2113.

Congratulations to Harry Weidberg, 17-A Ridge, who was admitted to the Maryland bar last Friday, December 11.

Congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Herman, 16-S Ridge, whose son, Jack will be bar-mitzvahed at the Center School on December 26.

Sgt. Theodore R. Coleman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Coleman, 11-D Hillside, will be spending Christmas on the other side of the world. Serving with the 75th Field Artillery, he arrived in Korea about two weeks ago.

A surprise stork shower was given on the evening of December 7 for Mrs. Joseph Kosisky, Jr. at 4-A Laurel Hill by Mrs. Joseph Kosisky, Sr. Co-hostesses were Mrs. Harold Newman and Mrs. Eve Gerard. The occasion served also as a reunion for several former Greenbelters, Dot Green, Vi Slight, Marie Mague, Irene Brooks, and Laura Jaacks. A visitor from

December 17, 1953

GREENBELT COOPERATOR

Three

Illinois was Mrs. John Newman. Danny Kosisky, son of the Kosiskys, Jr. celebrated his seventh birthday on Sunday, December 6.

Last Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Joseph T. Haslinger, 11-N Ridge, visited their son, Joseph, a student at St. Charles Seminary in Catonsville.

Bernard and Pauline Trattler, 1-H Southway, will celebrate their twenty-first wedding anniversary on Christmas Day. Their son Henry expects to spend the school holidays with his aunt in New Jersey.

Young Danny Cusick, 14-B Ridge, who was accidentally shot in an accident on December 5 while hunting with a companion in the woods several miles away, is in Leland Memorial Hospital in

Riverdale for an indefinite stay. He is undergoing a series of operations and skin graftings on his left hand, which was badly injured. Shot was removed from his right arm, and it is on the mend, but the left hand will require lengthy treatment. Danny's friends and classmates can help greatly in cheering him up with letters and cards during the next few weeks.

Helping the Reverend Victor Dowgiallo celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination in the priesthood, at the reception held last Sunday at St. Hugh's, were 20 or more former Greenbelters. Among the "alumni" were the Philip McGonagles, the Charles Wrights, the Guy Moores, the Lawrence Slights, the Hollands and the Huggards. I'm sure they will all join me in the wish that the present pastor of St. Hugh's will celebrate his 50th anniversary here in Greenbelt.

We were very sorry to learn of
See NEIGHBORS, Page 4

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Christmas Program For Baptists

The Greenbelt Baptist Chapel, meeting in Center School, plans a special Christmas Vesper program Sunday, December 20, at 5 p.m., which will replace the usual evening church program. Special numbers by classes of the Sunday School will open the program. The Cherub and Junior Choirs, directed by Mrs. Roy C. Thomas and Albert Niemeyer, will be a special feature. The conclusion will be "The Christmas Story", by Hazel U. Wilson.

NABORS from page 3
the death last week of Martha Fischer's mother in New Jersey. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Zubkoff had as their house guests last week his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Zubkoff, and their 7-year-old son Larry of Hartford, Conn. Mr. Zubkoff has just returned from Africa where he served with the Air Force as a Chief Warrant Officer. Was glad to see, as usual, that a goodly crowd attended the annual JCC dance at the Center School last Saturday. Former Greenbelters Lew and Dot Friedman, now of Langley Park, won the door prize, a set of gray plastic dishes in modern square design. Army Cpl. Stuart A. Oring, son of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Oring, 1-F

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